



WEBINAR: WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY 2024

“Prepare for the unexpected”

Role of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development (DALRRD) in Ensuring Food Safety Compliance



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Caveat

- ❑ Food safety refers to practices and conditions that preserve food quality to prevent contamination and food borne illnesses during production/ preparation, handling and storage
- ❑ Unsafe food causes foodborne diseases which lead to chronic diseases and deaths
- ❑ Bacteria, viruses, parasites and moulds are some of the risks associated with agricultural produce
- ❑ The rationale to celebrate World Food Safety Day is to draw attention and inspire action to (i) help prevent, detect and manage foodborne risks (ii). contributing to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agricultural production, market access, tourism and sustainable development.



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International framework

World Trade Organisation

- ✓ WTO-SPS Agreement
- ✓ WTO TBT Agreement

Codex Alimentarius Commission

- ✓ **International standards and guidelines** (*Additives, Contaminants, Toxins, Foodborne diseases, Labelling, packaging, grading, Market access standards, Food safety and quality, certification, Safe use of agrochemicals*)

World Health Organisation (WHO)

- ✓ International standard and guidelines

SPS = Sanitary and Phytosanitary

TBT = Technical Barriers to Trade



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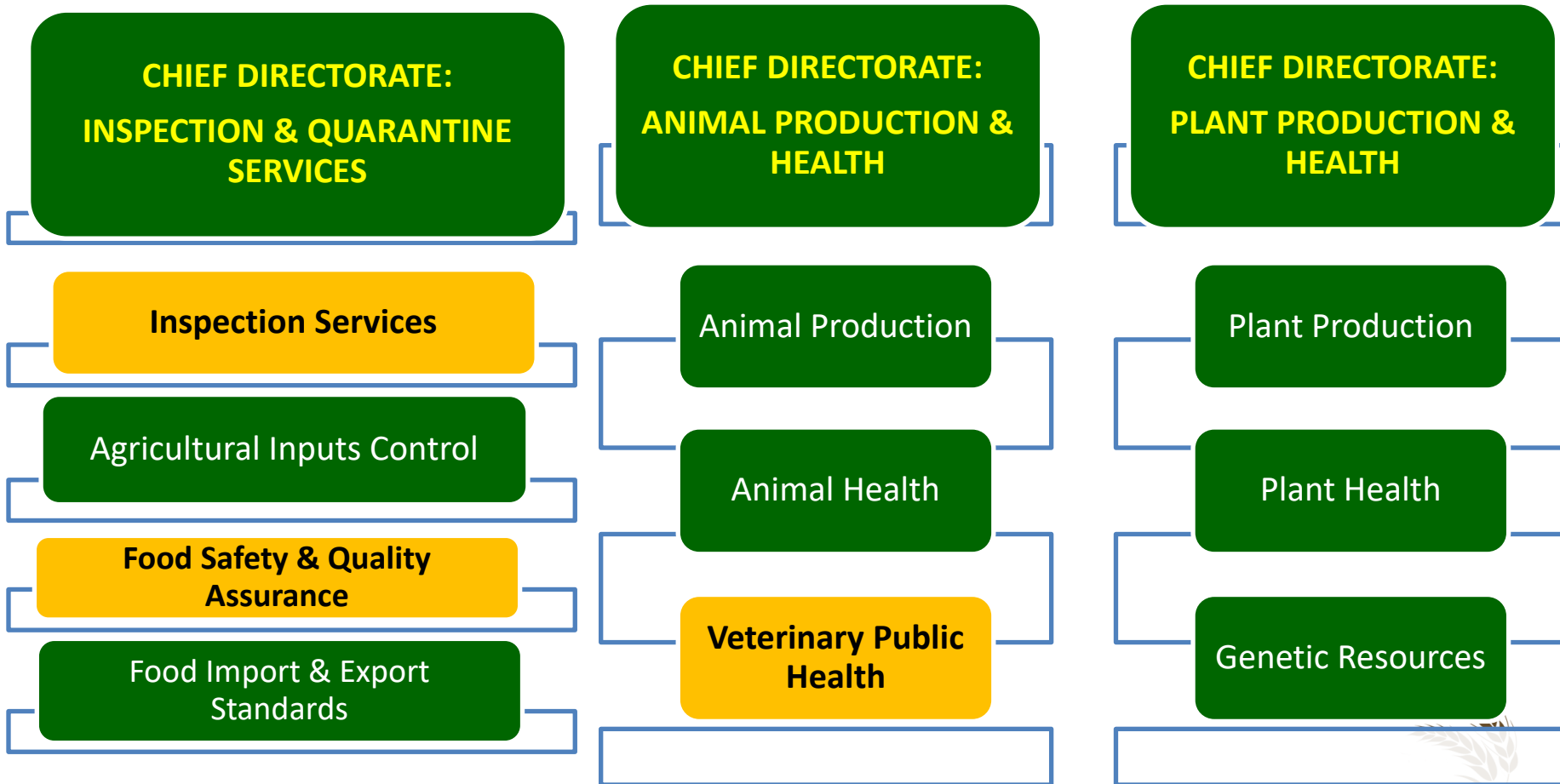


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(Branch: Agricultural Production, Biosecurity and Natural Resources Management) – (responsible for food safety and quality)



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Agricultural inspections(Quality inspections, Certification, interceptions /seizures or recalls/ release

Bodies responsible for inspection	Function	Contact / Address
Directorate: Inspection Services	Responsible for inspection of dairy products and edible ices, processed products (i.e., coffee, tea, table olives, canned products (fruit & vegetables))	Deputy Director: NPPPIS Mr. Gilbert Mediroe +27 12 309 8740
Directorate: Agricultural Inputs Control	Responsible for inspections of agricultural inputs (fertilisers, agricultural remedies and stock remedies)	Mr Gift Moncho Agriculture Place, Arcadia GiftM@Dalrrd.gov.za
Directorate: Food Import and Export Standards	Handle WTO notifications in respect to food safety in the international trade environment	Info.sps@Dalrrd.gov.za
Border Management Authority	Responsible for inspection of certain agricultural products intended for import at the Port of entry control	https://www.bma.gov.za/
South African Meat Industry Company (SAMIC) (Assignee)	Responsible for meat classification (Cattle, sheep, goats and pigs)	Po Box 36802, Menlo Park. 0102. Tel: 012 361 4545 or 082 900 3005
Product Control for Agriculture (PROKON) (Assignee)	Responsible for inspection of potatoes, fresh fruit and other vegetables	The Hillside office, Pretoria, 083 561 5554 - Natacia Buys
Food Safety Agency (Assignee)	Responsible for inspection of regulated animal products, (poultry meat, eggs, processed meat and certain raw processed meat product)	318 The Hillside Street, Pretoria +27 (012) 361 1937 info@afsq.co.za
The Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) (Assignee)	Responsible for all agricultural products intended for export	Tel +27 21 930 1134 45 Silwerboom Avenue, Platteklouf, 7500

Core functions of the DALRRD in respect to food safety

- Custodian of the national legislation that are based on International Standards (Agricultural Product Standards Act 119 of 1990, Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947, Meat Safety Act 40 of 2000, GMO Act 15 of 1997 and other related guidelines
- Lead the National SPS Committee and participate in national forums
- Focal point for sanitary notifications in respect to exports
- Handle technical negotiations for new markets (imports and exports)
- Conduct inspections in farms and packhouse etc,
- Render laboratory services
- Render training and awareness on national legislations, code of best practices and or good agricultural practices
- Participate in different bilateral, multilateral, regional and international food safety and related forums



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Summary of DALRRD Legislations and regulatory aspects

Directorate	Legislation	Regulatory issues
Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance	Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act. No 119 of 1990 – APS Act)	Quality Packaging Labelling
Directorate: Veterinary and Public Health	Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No 40 of 2000)	Quality Certification of facilities Labelling Packaging Hygiene
Directorate: Genetic Resources	Genetically Modified Organisms Act of 1997 (Act no 15 of 1997)	Regulates introduction or Establishment of GMO products in SA (Allergens, toxicity etc.)
Directorate: Agricultural Inputs Control	Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act of 1947 (Act 36 of 1947)	Registration of agrochemicals Safe use of agrochemicals

Some of the commodities regulated in terms of the Agricultural Product Standards Act of 1990

Category	Commodity
Agronomy products	Leguminous seeds, Canola, Dry beans, sorghum, wheat, wheat products, maize products, Sunflower
Deciduous fruits	Apples, Pears, Apricots, Peaches & Nectarines, Plums and Prunes, Grapes
Subtropical fruits	Bananas, Avocados, Litchis, Pineapple
Other fresh fruits	Mango, Blueberries, Guava, Melons, Papaya, Persimmons, Pomegranate, Strawberry, Gooseberry watermelons, Kiwi fruit, Jack fruit, Star fruit, Granadilla, figs, Cranberries
Fresh vegetables	Potatoes, tomatoes, onions and shallots, garlic, artichokes, asparagus, eggplant, beetroot, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, butternut, cabbage, peppers, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chillies, Chinese cabbage, baby marrow, cucumber, fennel, gem squash, ginger, green beans, green onions, green peas, lettuce, mushroom, okra, parsley, pumpkins, radish, spinach, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, unspecified vegetables, turnips, witloof chicory, Radish
Citrus fruits	Grapefruit, Kumquats, lemons, limes, oranges, Seville oranges, pummelos
Animal products	Dairy and imitation dairy products, eggs, edible ices, meat, poultry meat, certain raw processed meat products and processed meat products
Processed products	Canned fruit, canned mushroom, canned pasta, canned vegetables, dried fruit, fat spread, vinegar, table olives, coffee, chicory and related products, tea and related products, fruit juice and fruit drinks, frozen fruit and vegetables, Jam, jelly and marmalade, mayonnaise and salads dressing



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Some of the food safety precautionary measures within the value chain

1. On-farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Avoid use of contaminated water▪ Avoid using contaminated soils or plant medium▪ Avoid livestock, domestic and wild animals in the fields or orchards▪ Avoid injudicious use of agrochemicals e.g. pesticides, vaccines▪ Avoid unhygienic practices▪ Do quality control which include use hygiene practices▪ Have a trained person to lead the team
2. Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Avoid causing injuries to the produce▪ Avoid unhygienic practices▪ Avoid using contaminated equipment and picking utensils, bins, picking bags, transport wagons▪ Do quality control which include use of hygiene practices▪ Have a trained team to lead the team
3. Post-harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Avoid improper storage▪ Avoid contaminated storage▪ Do quality control which include use of hygiene practices▪ Have trained person to lead the team▪ Comprehensive sanitation standards operating procedures (SSOP) and maintenance programmes should be implemented and integrated pest management (IPM) should be in place▪ Store meat at required temperatures, food establishments and equipment must be clean all the time.▪ Use clean and proper packaging material

Some of the food safety concerns

Common causes of foodborne illnesses	Example of diseases
Bacteria	<i>Salmonella bacteria</i> <i>Staphylococcus bacteria</i> <i>Listeria</i>
Viruses	<i>Hepatitis A</i>
Parasites	<i>Cyclospora cayetanensis</i>
Molds	<i>Patulin</i>

Chemical and physical hazards are critical concerns too



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Facilities/ laboratories: used for analysing agricultural products



National Laboratories - Stellenbosch (South) and Pretoria (North)

Other Officially Recognised Laboratories:

- Mériex Nutri Sciences,
- KL Analytical Services CC T/A Labserve
- Hearshaw & Kinnes
- Hortec
- SABS
- Microchem
- SAGL
- PPECB
- SGS South Africa Pty Ltd



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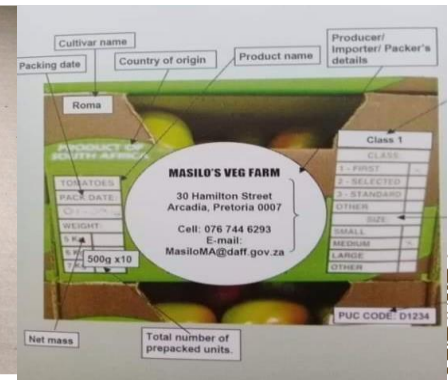
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Benefits of adhering to the food safety and quality standards

- Protect human health
- Market access
- Produce and/or sell healthy, nutritious and safe food
- Quality produce
- Record keeping
- Reduce risks associated with foodborne diseases
- Realistic shelf life
- Reputable establishment
- Attract good prices
- Traceability



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Raid in Marabastad, 2023



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Acknowledgement Mr Simphiwe Mathenjwa et al

***“Food Safety is everyone’s business”
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#worldfoodsafetyday2024



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